

Serial No.: 10/010,721

Examiner: A. Psitos

Title: RELIEF DIFFRACTION GRATING BODY, AND OPTICAL PICK-UP AND OPTICAL INFORMATION APPARATUS USING THE SAME

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 21 of page 7 with the following amended paragraph:

Furthermore, it is preferable that a material of the base material having the refractive index  $n_1$  is at least one material selected from the group consisting of  $Ta_2O_5$ ,  $TiO_2$ ,  $ZrO_2$ ,  $Nb_2O_3$ ,  $ZnS$ ,  $LiNbO_3$  and  $LiTaO_3$ . With the use of the above-mentioned materials, it is possible to obtain a high refractive index  $n_1$  as high as 1.9 or more.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 28 of page 8 with the following amended paragraph:

Furthermore, it is preferable that a material of the single base material is at least one material selected from the group consisting of  $Ta_2O_5$ ,  $TiO_2$ ,  $ZrO_2$ ,  $Nb_2O_3$ ,  $ZnS$ ,  $LiNbO_3$  and  $LiTaO_3$ . With the use of the above-mentioned materials, it is possible to obtain a high refractive index  $n_1$  as high as 1.9 or more.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on line 26 of page 26 with the following amended paragraph:

In the above, as the material with high refractive index, the case of using  $Ta_2O_5$  was explained. However, it is to be noted that the material is not limited to  $Ta_2O_5$  and other materials also can be used. For example,  $TiO_2$  (refractive index: about 2.3),  $ZrO_2$  (refractive index: about 1.95),  $Nb_2O_3$  (refractive index: about 2.3),  $ZnS$  (refractive index: about 2.3),  $LiNbO_3$  (refractive index: about 2.0),  $LiTaO_3$  (refractive index: about 1.9 to 2.0), and the like may be used.